

## Freedom of Information request 168-23

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### Request

1. What was the longest continuous shift an NHS member of staff completed in the following calendar years, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, broken down by profession?
2. How many junior doctors have worked a continuous shift of a) over 8 hours; b) over 10 hours; and c) over 12 hours in the following calendar years, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, broken down by profession?
3. How many registered nurses have worked a continuous shift of a) over 8 hours; b) over 10 hours; and c) over 12 hours in the following calendar years, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, broken down by profession?
4. How many Allied Health Professionals have worked a continuous shift of a) over 8 hours; b) over 10 hours; and c) over 12 hours in the following calendar years, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, broken down by profession?

### Response

NHS Borders staff shift information is held over 3 systems and to download, extrapolate and merge the relevant data would exceed the amount prescribed for responding to requests made under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Under Section 12(1) Excessive cost of compliance, of the Act, we are not obliged to provide you with the information.

Please note: It would take approximately 2 hours to download 1 month of shifts as 1 day of shifts is 2,571 (average) shifts. The information held in its primary format does not enable identification of shift length as this needs to be updated to include additional details of hours worked when added to the core shift e.g., excess basic hours, overtime at time and a half and overtime at double time. Where those additional hours are given, it can be in 3 different ways from the separate finance and payroll systems. In one system the additional hours worked can be entered as free text by the service and therefore this can't be automatically collated and requires further manual review.

However, under Section 15 Duty to Provide Advice and Assistance we have provided the most recent data – February 2023.

1. In reviewing a total of 51,604 shifts across the 3 systems for February 2023, the longest continuous shift was identified as 16.65 hours – for a member of the nursing team at Knoll Community Hospital.
2. Junior Doctors are employed on a regional model and their information is updated to their employing Board's payroll and time and attendance system. Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
3. In reviewing a total of 14,250 registered nursing shifts in February 2023:
  - a) 5,195 shifts over 8 hours were worked by registered nurses
  - b) 3,975 shifts over 10 hours were worked by registered nurses
  - c) 83 shifts over 12 hours were worked by registered nurses

4. In reviewing a total of 2,765 AHP shifts in February 2023:

- a) 262 shifts over 8 hours were worked by AHP's
- b) 0 shifts over 10 hours were worked by AHP's
- c) 0 shifts over 12 hours were worked by AHP's

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or [foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk).

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **168-23** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.